# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1177
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2016
Reading Habit among Children
Chudasama Shri Rajeshbhai Naranbhai

**Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government is considering to encourage the habit of reading among children and youngsters by setting up book stalls managed by National Book Trust at public places like railway stations and airports and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government also proposes to make it mandatory for all schools/colleges to run well stocked libraries and book clubs; and
(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

## Answer

MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) Yes Madam. National Book Trust (NBT), India an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Human Resource Development has approached the Railway Board to open NBT book stalls at New Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai and Mumbai. In addition NBT publications are already available at 72 major railway stations across the country and set up exclusive book shops at two Delhi Metro Stations viz. Kashmiri Gate and Vishwa Vidhyalaya. Further, NBT has set up over 35,000 Readers' Clubs in 31 States/U.T.s mostly in Government run/ aided schools and libraries.

(b) & (c) A sub programme of Sarva Siksha Abhiyan, "Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat" was launched in August, 2014, as focus programme for improving learning of reading comprehensive & mathematics for children of class I and II.

UGC has informed that the scheme of General Development Assistance has been implemented under which Financial Assistance is given to eligible Higher Educational Institutions for Development of infrastructure including institutional libraries & reading material etc.

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